

# Prior Authorization Annual Review - Fiscal Year 2008

## Synagis<sup>®</sup>

Oklahoma Health Care Authority

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### Definition of Prior Authorization Category for FY '08

Prior authorization is required for all members who receive Synagis<sup>®</sup> in an outpatient setting. Synagis<sup>®</sup> is approved for members who meet the established criteria based on the 2003 American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) guidelines.

### Current Criteria for Prior Authorization of Synagis

- A. Member Selection. Members must be included in one of the following age groups at the beginning of the RSV season:\*
- 1) Infants and children less than 24 months old with Chronic Lung Disease (CLD) (formerly bronchopulmonary dysplasia) who have required medical treatment (O<sub>2</sub>, bronchodilator, corticosteroid, or diuretic therapy) for CLD in the 6 months prior to RSV season.
  - 2) Infants less than 12 months of age, born at 28 weeks gestation or earlier
  - 3) Infants less than 6 months of age, born at 29-31 weeks gestation.
  - 4) Infants, up to 6 months old at the start of RSV season, born at 32-35 weeks gestation, who have 2 or more of the following risk factors:
    - a. Child care attendance
    - b. School-aged siblings
    - c. Exposure to environmental air pollutants (Tobacco smoke exposure can be controlled by the family, therefore not a risk factor for Synagis prophylaxis)
    - d. Congenital abnormalities of the airway
    - e. Severe neuromuscular disease
  - 5) Children up to 24 months old with hemodynamically significant cyanotic and acyanotic congenital heart disease.
  - 6) Infants up to 12 months old with moderate to severe pulmonary hypertension, cyanotic heart disease, or those on medications to control congestive heart failure.

\* Treatment should continue through the entire RSV season.

B. Length of treatment. Synagis<sup>®</sup> is approved for use only during RSV season, which is generally November 1 through April 30, as determined by Oklahoma State Dept. of Health. Approval dates will be October 15, 2008 through March 31, 2009

C. Units authorized. The maximum duration of therapy is six (6) doses, with a dose to be administered no more often than every 30 days. Members given doses more frequently than every 30 days will not be authorized for additional doses. Doses administered prior to the member's discharge from a hospital will be counted as one of the six.

D. Dose-pooling. To avoid unnecessary risk to the patient, multiple patients are not to be treated from a single vial. Failure to follow this recommendation will result in referral of the provider to the Quality Assurance Committee of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

## Utilization

For the period of October 15, 2007 through March 31, 2008, a total of 718 SoonerCare members received Synagis® from a pharmacy provider or a physician's office.

<b>Total Cost - RSV Season 07-08</b>	<b>\$4,703,554.70</b>	<b>24.2%↓</b>
<i>Total Cost RSV Season 06-07</i>	<i>\$6,208,697.40</i>	
<b>Total Claims- RSV Season 07-08</b>	<b>3,395</b>	<b>29.5%↓</b>
<i>Total Claims RSV Season 06-07</i>	<i>4,819</i>	
<b>Total Members - RSV Season 07-08</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>19.9%↓</b>
<i>Total Members RSV Season 06-07</i>	<i>896</i>	

## Pharmacy Claims

Product	# of Claims	Total Units	Total Days	Total Cost	Total Members
<i>Synagis® 50 mg/0.5 ml vial</i>	1,108	554	33,249	\$916,473.67	507
<i>Synagis® 100 mg/ml vial</i>	2,273	2,352	68,189	\$3,760,589.93	629
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,381</b>	<b>2,906</b>	<b>101,438</b>	<b>\$4,677,063.60</b>	<b>714*</b>

\*Total unduplicated members for 07-08

## Physician Office Claims – CPT code 90378

Product	# of Claims	Total Units	Total Days	Total Cost	Total Members
<i>Synagis® 50 mg increments</i>	14	34†	420	\$26,491.10	4*

† One unit = 0.5 mLs

\*Total unduplicated members for 07-08

## Total petitions - RSV Season 07-08

A total of 1,745 petitions were submitted for consideration of Synagis®.

Approved .....794  
 Denied ..... 568  
 Incomplete ..... 383

## Demographics

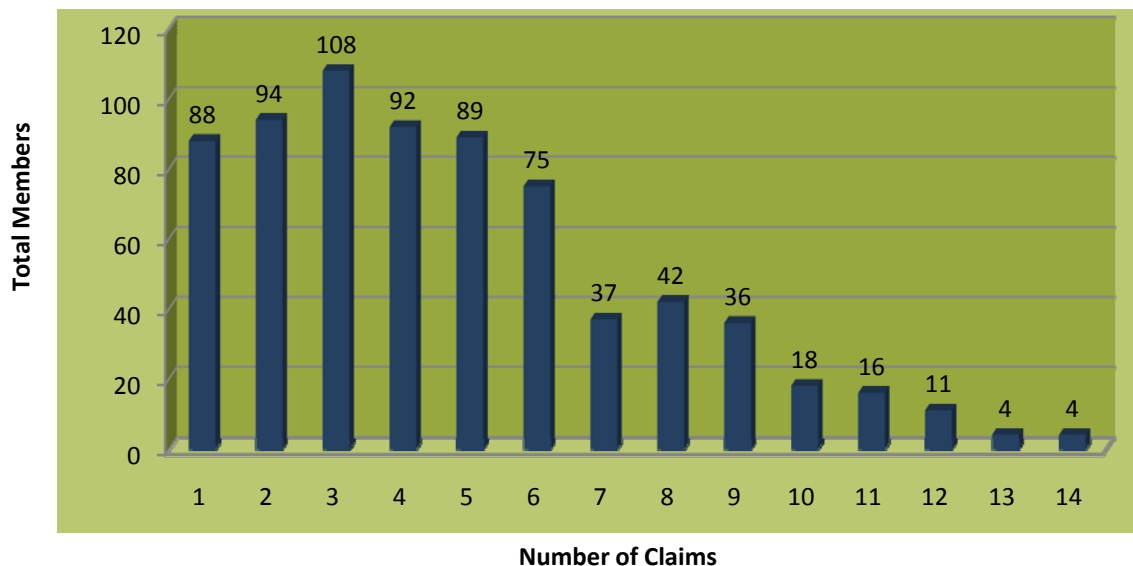
Claims were reviewed to determine the age/gender of the members. The 2-year olds were under 24 months at the time of approval.

Age	Female	Male	Totals
0	321	335	656
1	27	31	58
2	2	2	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>718</b>

## Claims Data

Because both sizes of vials can be used for one dose and each vial size must be submitted as a separate pharmacy claim, the number of claims appears to be excessive. A total of **2,462 doses** were given through the season. The average cost per dose was \$1,899.70. Synagis was limited to 6 doses for the season. Members with more than 12 claims were reviewed. Reversed claims are included in these figures. None of these members had more than the six approved doses.

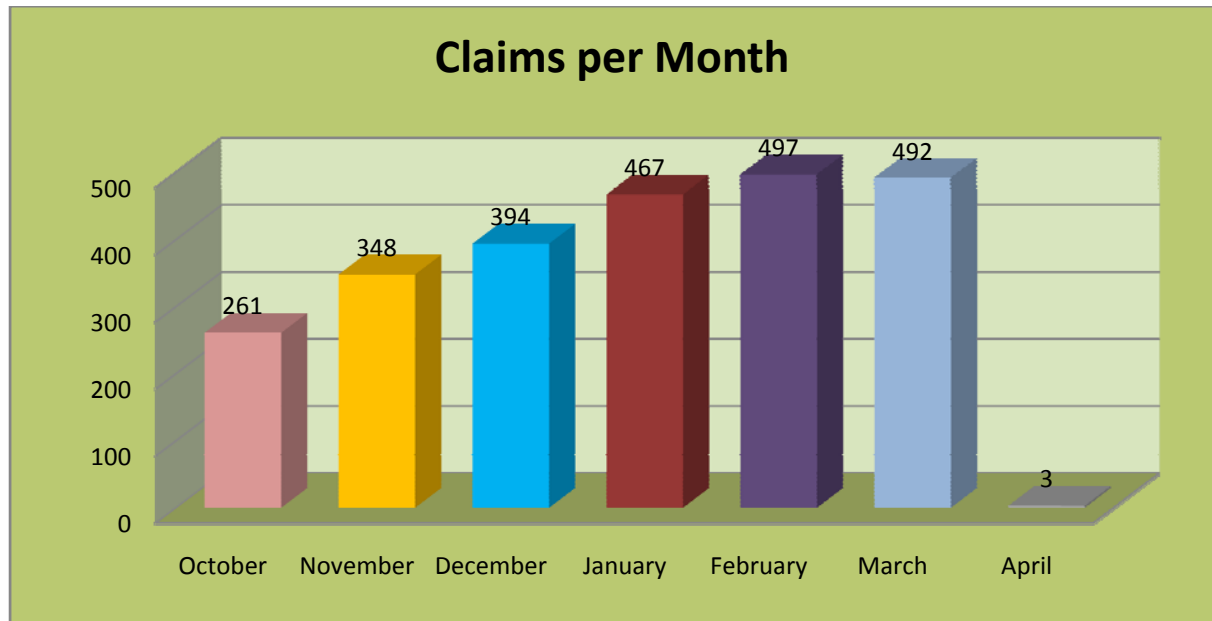
## Claims per Member



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## Dosing

The number of doses given in each month of RSV Season is represented in this graph. Three doses were authorized for administration in early April at the request of the physicians.



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## Discussion

The 2007-08 RSV season (yellow line in graph below) did not peak as high as the previous year, and did not reach the epidemic threshold until mid-December. After the peak in January, there was a gradual decline in cases through February. By the end of March the number of reported cases had decreased significantly, though the percentages remained above the threshold until the end of April. However, it was decided that a dose in April was not warranted, except on a case by case basis.

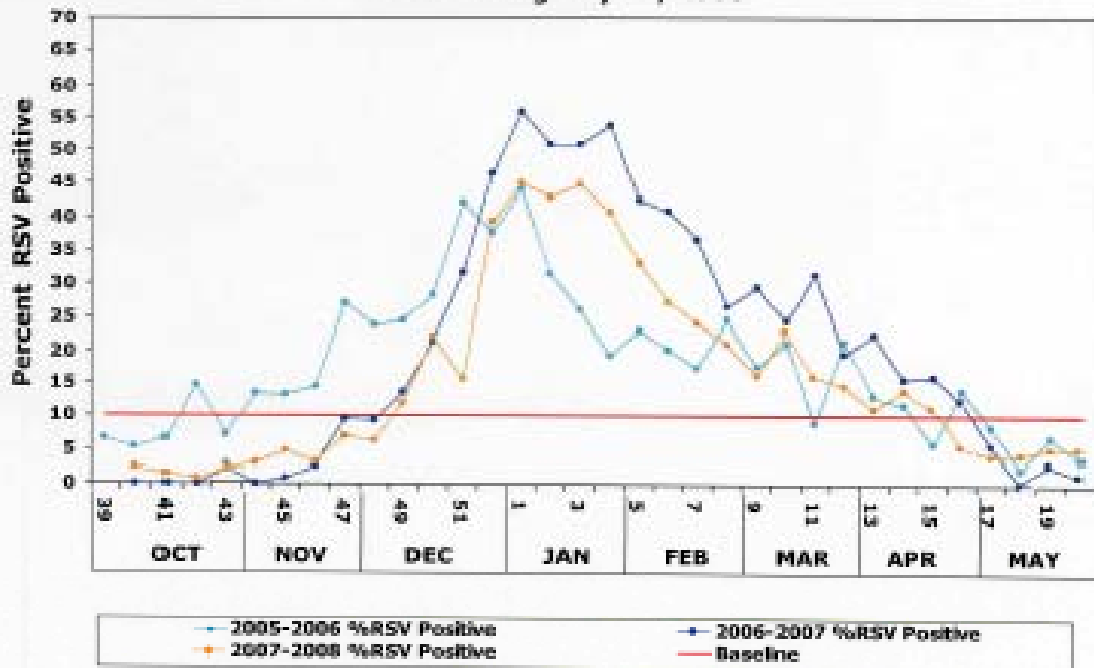
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## Recommendations

The College of Pharmacy recommends continuation of the existing palivizumab authorization criteria.

### Percent of Sentinel Laboratory RSV Tests Positive by Week, Oklahoma 2005-2008

Week Ending May 17, 2008



From the Oklahoma State Health Department website: <http://www.health.state.ok.us/program/cdd/flu>